

under 35 U.S.C. §112 is improper and should be withdrawn. If the Examiner chooses to maintain this rejection, Applicants reserve the right to conduct an Examiner Interview to resolve this matter.

Claims 52-54, 56-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ramous* (U.S. #5,896,533) in view of *Heenehan* (U.S. #6,728,933) and further in view of *Thorton* ("OLE In Notes"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection itself, it is noted that the present application is a Division of application 08/548,137, which was filed on October 25, 1995. Accordingly, neither the *Heenehan* document nor the *Thorton* document are valid prior art against the present application. As a result, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is improper and should be withdrawn.

For at least these reasons, the Applicants submit that claims 52-60 are allowable. Applicants earnestly request an early Notice of Allowance. If any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (0115274-00005) on the account statement..

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY 
Peter Zura
Reg. No. 48,196
P.O. Box 1135
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135
Phone: (312) 807-4292

Dated: April 12, 2005